
The original instrument was prepared by Danielle Doiron. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by James Benton.

DIGEST

Dorsey (SB 63)

Present law authorizes entities defined as "local governmental subdivisions" to implement ad valorem tax and sales tax increment financing and to issue revenue bonds backed by a pledge of the tax increments to finance all or any part of an "economic development project."

"Economic development project" is defined as, without limitation, any and all projects suitable to any industry determined by the "local governmental subdivision" including public works and infrastructure and projects to assist the following industries:

- (1) Industrial, manufacturing, and other related industries.
- (2) Housing and related industries.
- (3) Hotel, motel, conference facilities, and related industries.
- (4) Commercial, retail, and related industries.
- (5) Amusement, places of entertainment, theme parks, and any other tourism-related industry.
- (6) Transportation-related industries.
- (7) Hospital, medical, health, nursery care, nursing care, clinical, ambulance, laboratory, and related industries.
- (8) Any other industry determined by the "local governmental subdivision" whose assistance will result in economic development.

Present law authorizes such "local governmental subdivisions" to enter into a joint venture or cooperative endeavor for a public purpose with a federal, state, or local governmental agency or with a private or public firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity.

Present law authorizes such "local governmental subdivisions" to issue revenue bonds and other bonds and forms of indebtedness.

Present law authorizes such "local governmental subdivisions" to levy an ad valorem tax of up to 5 mills and a two percent sales tax after the governing authority of the district gives notice and meets in open and public session to hear any objections and the favorable vote of a majority of the electors of the district voting in an election.

Proposed law creates the Thomas H. Delpit Area Special District and provides that the districts boundaries shall encompass the following area:

West on Terrace Street from Braddock Street to Napoleon Street; then south on Napoleon Street to E. Harrison Street; then east on E. Harrison Street to Georgia Street; then north on Georgia Street to Braddock Street; then north on Braddock Street to Terrace Street.

Proposed law provides that the district is created to provide for cooperative economic development between the district, the city of Baton Rouge, and the owner or owners of businesses, residences, and other property within the district in order to provide for housing, renovation, restoration, and development within the district.

Proposed law grants to the district all the ad valorem, sales tax, and occupancy tax increment finance and bonding authority, and the ad valorem and sales tax levy authority granted to "local governmental subdivisions" as described in present law.

Proposed law provides that the district may also pledge any taxes collected under the authority of this Section to any economic development project in furtherance of the purposes of the district. Such financing may include, but shall not be limited to loans, mortgages, the issuance of bonds, or the issuance of certificates of indebtedness.

Proposed law provides for the district to be administered and governed by a board of commissioners of four people as follows:

- (1) The mayor-president of East Baton Rouge or his designee.
- (2) One member appointed by the city-parish metro council.
- (3) One member appointed by the Senator representing the district.
- (4) One member appointed by the member of the House of Representatives representing the district.

Proposed law requires the district to cease to exist one year after the earlier of the date all indebtedness of the district is paid in full as to both principal and interest; however, the district must exist three years.

The proposed law must be liberally construed to effect its purposes.

Effective July 1, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 33:9038.31(3); adds R.S. 33:9038.43)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs
to the original bill.

1. Changes the boundaries of the district.
2. Removes provision that allowed the district to levy taxes upon hotel, motel and overnight camping facilities.